IN THE CLAIMS:

Please amend the claims as follows:

1. (Currently Amended) A telecommunication network comprising:

~~having~~ at least one radio access network,

a core network, and

at least one terminal device,

wherein said core network ~~comprises~~ includes at least one gateway device, and at least one network control device configured to provide call setup and call control functions and configured ~~adapted~~ to control said at least one gateway device by transmitting a control information to the gateway device,

~~wherein the at least one gateway device is located within the core network~~,

wherein said radio access network is directly connected to the gateway device via a first interface,

wherein a second interface ~~is located within the core network and~~ is connected between the network control device and the gateway device ~~of the core network~~, the control information being transmitted from the network control device to the gateway device via said second interface,

wherein said telecommunication network is ~~adapted~~ configured to route user data directly, without being transmitted through the network control device, between said radio access network and said at least one gateway device via said first interface; and

wherein the gateway device ~~provides~~ is configured to provide conversion between audio signals carried on telephone circuits and data packets carried over the Internet or other packet networks.

2. (Previously Presented) A telecommunication network according to claim 1, wherein said first interface is connected directly from said radio access network to said gateway device.

3. (Previously Presented) A telecommunication network according to claim 1, wherein said second interface is connected to said gateway device.

4. CANCEL.

5. (Original) A telecommunication network according to claim 1, wherein said user data comprises real-time data.

6. (Previously Presented) A telecommunication network according to claim 5, wherein said user data comprises at least one of speech, audio, and video data.

7. (Currently Amended) A telecommunication network according to claim 6, wherein said user data is transmitted using ~~the RTP~~ a real time protocol.

8. (Currently Amended) A telecommunication network according to claim 1, wherein said second interface is adapted to use ~~the ISUP~~ a signaling user part protocol.

9. (Currently Amended) A telecommunication network according to claim 1, wherein said second interface is adapted to use ~~the MGCP~~ a media gateway control protocol.

10. CANCELLED.

11. (Original) A telecommunication network according to claim 1, wherein said user data is routed via a packet network.

12. (Currently Amended) A telecommunication network according to claim 11, wherein said packet network is an [[ATM]] asynchronous transfer mode network.

13. (Currently Amended) A telecommunication network according the claim 11, wherein said packet network is ~~an IP~~ an internet protocol network.

14. (Currently Amended) A telecommunication network according to claim 1, wherein said control information is transmitted via a [[TDM]] time division multiplexing network.

15. (Original) A telecommunication network according to claim 1, wherein said control information is transmitted via a packet network.

16. (Currently Amended) A telecommunication network according to claim 15, wherein said packet network is an [[ATM]] asynchronous transfer mode network.

17. (Currently Amended) A telecommunication network according to claim 15, wherein said packet network is ~~an IP~~ internet protocol network.

18. (Currently Amended) A telecommunication network according to claim 1, wherein said telecommunication network is ~~a UMTS network~~ part of a universal mobile telecommunication system.

19. (Currently Amended) A telecommunication network according to claim 1, wherein said network control device is a ~~Mobile Switching Center~~ mobile switching center.

20. (Original) A telecommunication network according to claim 1, wherein said first interface is an Iu interface.

21. (Currently Amended) A method ~~for routing user data via a radio access network to a gateway device of a core network, the core network having at least one network control device and a second interface that is located within the core network and is connected between the network control device and the gateway device of the core network~~, comprising ~~the steps of~~:

~~controlling said gateway device by transmitting control information from the network device to said gateway device via a second interface; and~~

routing ~~said~~ user data via a radio access network to a gateway device of a core network having at least one network control device, wherein the user data is routed directly, without being transmitted through the network control device, between said radio access network and said gateway device via a first interface, and wherein the core network also has a second interface connected between the network control device and the gateway device; and

controlling said gateway device by transmitting control information from said network device to said gateway device via a second interface;

wherein said radio access network is directly connected to the gateway device via the first interface,

wherein the network control device provides call setup and call control functions,

~~wherein the gateway device is located within the core network~~, and

wherein the gateway device provides conversion between audio signals carried on telephone circuits and data packets carried over the Internet or other packet networks.

22. (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 21, wherein said control information is supplied via said second interface to said radio access network, and subsequently the control information is supplied together with said user data, via said first interface, to said gateway device.

23. (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 21, wherein said control information is supplied via a network control device.

24. (Currently Amended) A method according to claim 21, wherein ~~the ISUP~~ a signaling user part protocol is used in said second interface.

25. (Currently Amended) A method according to claim 21, wherein ~~the MGCP~~ a media gateway control protocol is used in said second interface.

26. (Original) A method according to claim 21, wherein said first interface is an Iu interface.

27. (Currently Amended) ~~A gateway device for use with a telecommunication network having at least one radio access network, and at least one terminal device,~~ Apparatus comprising:

a first interface configured to receive user data directly from a radio access network without being transmitted through a core network,

a second interface configured to receive ~~wherein said gateway device is adapted to receive~~ control information from at least one network control device in the core ~~a core~~ network ~~via a second interface that is located within the core network~~;

~~wherein the gateway device is located within the core network, and~~

wherein the network control device is configured to provide call setup and call control functions,

~~wherein said gateway device of the core network is adapted to receive user data directly from said radio access network via a first interface without being transmitted through the core network,~~

wherein said radio access network is directly connected to the ~~gateway device~~ apparatus via the first interface, and

wherein the apparatus is a gateway device ~~provides~~ configured to provide conversion between audio signals carried on telephone circuits and data packets carried over the Internet or other packet networks.

28. CANCELLED.

29. (New) The gateway device of claim 27, wherein said user data comprises real-time data.

30. (New) The gateway device of claim 27, wherein said user data comprises at least one of speech, audio, and video data.

31. (New) Apparatus comprising:

first means, for receiving user data directly from a radio access network without being transmitted through a core network,

second means, for receiving control information from at least one network control device in the core network;

wherein the network control device is configured to provide call setup and call control functions,

wherein said radio access network is directly connected to the apparatus via the first means, and wherein the apparatus is a gateway device configured to provide conversion between audio signals carried on telephone circuits and data packets carried over the Internet or other packet networks.

32. (New) The apparatus of claim 31, wherein said user data comprises real-time data.

33. (New) The apparatus of claim 31, wherein said user data comprises at least one of speech, audio, and video data.